


BETH JACOB **THE YOM TOV**
The Center of Your Jewish Life **WEEKLY**

22-23 Tishrei 5782

SHEMINI ATZERET/SIMCHAT TORAH

September 28-29, 2021

YOM TOV SCHEDULE

Candle Lighting w/ Shehechyanu 6:19pm
 Mincha 6:25pm

Tuesday/Shemini Atzeres

Shacharis / Yizkor 8:45am
 Latest Shema 9:39am
 Daf Yomi 5:15pm
 Mincha 6:20pm
 Maariv and Hakafof 7:00pm
 Light Candles w/ Shehechyanu after ... 7:27pm

Wednesday/Simchas Torah

Shacharis 8:45am
 Latest Shema 9:39am
 Hakafof 10:00am
 Daf Yomi 5:15pm
 Mincha 6:20pm
 Yom Tov Ends 7:18pm

WEEKLY DAVENING TIMES

Shacharis 8:00am
 Sunday: 6:15am
 Monday - Friday:
Mincha/Maariv 6:20pm
 Monday - Thursday :

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

www.bjsd.org/zoom or in person

Sunday: - Daf Yomi: 7:00am
 Monday, Thursday, Friday 7:15am
 Hilchos Kohanim class OFF

Monday:
 - Semichas Chaver Program with Rabbi Whittenburg OFF

Tuesday:
 - Gemara Moed Katan with Rabbi Whittenburg OFF

Wednesday:
 - (Ladies & Men) Zoom/FB Live OFF
 -Gemara with Rabbi Adatto OFF

Thursday:
 - "Insights into the Weekly Parsha" OFF
 with Rabbi Bogopulsky: in person/Zoom/FB Live

YOUTH GROUPS

Tuesday: Morning Youth Group 10:00am
 Afternoon Youth Group 5:20pm
Wednesday: Pre-Hakafof Prep, Story & Snacks 9:30am
 Afternoon Youth Group 5:20pm

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

Welcome to all our guests and visitors here for Yom Tov.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

William Bloom, Gershon Brookler, Allen Gruber,
 Rachel Guenniche, Chana Anna Kaplan, Yishai Silver,
 Aharon Peikes, Scott Reich

REFUAH SHELEIMA

Irving Bernhardt, Susan Bernhardt, Dassi Atanelov,
 Joel Snyder. Leopoldo Kahn, Robert Sigal

EXTRA 5782 SHUL CALENDARS AVAILABLE FOR \$5

Call the office to have extra calendars ready for pick-up.

RABBI BOGOPULSKY'S NEW BOOK AVAILABLE NOW

Get Rabbi Bogopulsky's newest book, *Raising a Community, a Family and Ourselves*, directly from him or at mosaicpress.com.

COMING UP NJOP HEBREW READING CRASH COURSE

Tuesday, November 9 at 7:30pm. Sign up with the office or online. bjsd.org/hebrew

SUPPORT LOCAL KOSHER

NEW KOSHER SMOOTHIES Only certified at the local 7-11 location - 5141 College Ave.

You can now get a variety of ice-blended beverages dispensed from the green self-serve "Fresh Blends" machines. Various flavors of Smoothies, Shakes, Frappes & Cold Brew drinks.

MOISHE'S PIZZA AND MORE DINE-IN OR TAKEOUT OPEN

Thursday, September 30th from 4:00-7:00pm. GIANT Pizza, Fish Burrito, Fries, Fish & Chips, & Soup. Pre-order (619) 817-5914.

MENCHIE'S LA MESA

Frozen yogurt (*pareve choices available*).
 8046 La Mesa Blvd, La Mesa, CA 91942. (619) 724-6633.

BOTANIC BURGERS @ THE JCC

Now open with an all new Vegan menu. Visit their website at botanicburgers.com or call (858) 362-1353.

BAKERY IN EL CAJON

PF BAKERIES Get your LANG'S Challah, Bagels and all your baked goods. To order and pick up, please call (619) 280-5264. Mention you are calling from BJC. **OU supervision**

FRENCH BAKERY IN LA JOLLA PARISIEN GOURMANDISES

7643 Girard Ave. La Jolla, (858) 352-6552. Under the supervision of the KSA (Kosher Supervision of America). For inquiries please contact the KSA at (310) 282-0444.

RABBI

Avram Bogopulsky


BETH JACOB CONGREGATION OF SAN DIEGO

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PRESIDENT

Philip Silverman

Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah

by Rabbi Shraga Simmons

Courtesy Aish.com

God adds a special day at the end of Sukkot, a day of great intimacy with our Creator, as He asks His Jewish children to remain with him for extra personal time together.

Imagine you throw a huge party and invite everyone you know. But this is no "regular" party: It's one solid week of food, music and fun. Eventually things wind down and people begin to leave. As the host, you quietly go over to a few of your best friends and whisper: "Stick around after everyone else leaves -- that's when I'm breaking out the good stuff."

Each year God has a weeklong celebration called "Sukkot." In ancient times in Jerusalem, the service in the Holy Temple during the week of Sukkot featured a total of 70 bull offerings. This, the Talmud explains, corresponds to each of the 70 nations of the world. The Temple was not just for Jews. When King Solomon built the Temple, he specifically asked God to heed the prayer of non-Jews who comes to the Temple (1-Kings 8:41-43). And the prophet Isaiah refers to the Temple as a "House for all nations" (Isaiah 56:7).

The Temple was the universal center of spirituality, a concentrated point where God-consciousness filtered down into the world. In fact, the Talmud says that if the Romans would have realized how much benefit they themselves were getting from the Temple, they never would have destroyed it!

And then, at the end of Sukkot, God added a special day. It's called Shemini Atzeret, literally the "Eighth Day of Assembly". On that day, only one bull was offered -- representing the Jewish people. It is a day of great intimacy with our Creator, as He asks His Jewish children to remain with him for extra personal time together. (Talmud - Sukkot 55b)

Shemini Atzeret is a full public holiday, as described in Leviticus 23:36. Even though it immediately follows the seven-day Sukkot festival and is often considered part of Sukkot, it is, in fact, a separate holiday. This means that the *She'hechyanu* blessing is recited, and the obligation to sit in the Sukkah does not apply.

TAPESTRY OF SEVENS

Nachmanides (12th century Spain) explains a beautiful kabbalistic concept: Seven is the number of the natural world. There are seven days in the week, seven notes on the musical scale and seven directions (left, right, up, down, forward, back and center). "Seven" -- represented by the seven days of Sukkot -- is the world of nature. "Eight" -- represented by Shemini Atzeret -- is that which is beyond nature.

The Jewish people, says the Talmud, are beyond nature. We have survived every imaginable persecution, exile, hardship and expulsion. And still, we have achieved and thrived far beyond our numbers. As Mark Twain wrote: "All things remain mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?"

The "secret," as we know, is the special gift that God gave to the Jewish people: The Torah. As Rabbi Emanuel Feldman writes:

"Torah is the mysterious bridge which connects the Jew and God, across which they interact and communicate, and by means of which God fulfills His covenant with His people to sustain them and protect them."

Therefore it is no coincidence that on Shemini Atzeret we also celebrate the completion of the yearly cycle of Torah readings and the beginning of a new cycle. This event is lovingly referred to as "Simchat Torah," literally "Rejoicing of the Torah." (Outside of Israel, Simchat Torah is celebrated the day after Shemini Atzeret.)

Why are we accustomed to both finish and re-start the reading of the Torah on the same day? The Sages explain: "To show that the Torah is beloved to us like a new object and not like an old command which a person no longer treasures. Since it is brand new to us, we all run to greet it." We sing and dance for hours around the *bima* (the platform where the Torah is read), carry the Torah Scroll, and express our joy at having the opportunity to come so close to God.

On Shemini Atzeret, as we complete this holiday season, we offer a special prayer to God for rain. Rain represents the blessings of growth and abundance. Through all the hard work of Elul, Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Sukkot, we have come a long way. Our task now is to carry that energy throughout the year.

SIMCHAS TORAH

**Join us Tuesday night (7:00pm) and
Wednesday morning for a lively Hakafot.
Singing and Dancing Galore!
Every child gets a flag, apple
and maybe even a special treat.**